

JOHN C. WILLIAMS, REPRESENTATIVE OF BARHAM.

JANUARY 17, 1832.

Mr. MARDIS, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of John C. Williams, report:*

That the petitioner purchased the settlement right of Fielding Barham and wife, at a parish sale; that he paid a valuable consideration for it, say upwards of seven hundred dollars; that the place was settled by deceased in 1809 or '10, and that it continued in the actual occupancy and cultivation of said Barham and wife, up to the time of her death in 1826; that Barham was blind and a cripple for some several years previous to his death, and unable to do his own business; that he employed a man by the name Bradford to present his claim to the United States' commissioners at St. Helena courthouse, for confirmation; that the land claimed is situated in the parish of East Feliciana, on Carr's creek, in the State of Louisiana. All the above facts are fully substantiated by the testimony of several witnesses, and also by the production of an exemplification of the parish sale. The committee are therefore of the opinion, that the neglect of the United States' commissioners to report the claim of deceased for confirmation, should not prejudice the rights of his representatives, and are unanimous in the opinion that the claim should be confirmed; consequently, report a bill.

